

See West Society

MORNING

SATURDAY VISITOR.

E. CAMERON & L. J. RITCHEY.]

Here shall the Press the People's rights maintain,

Unaid by influence, unbribed by gain.

(EDITORS AND PROPRIETORS.)

VOL. V. WARSAW, MISSOURI, SATURDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 3, 1849. NO. 1.

Office over the Drug Store, (ENTRANCE FROM MAIN STREET.)

TERMS:
The Saturday Morning Visitor is published once a week at \$2 00 per annum, payable in advance.

Advertisements will be inserted at \$1 per square of 16 lines (or less) for the first insertion, and fifty cents for each continuation. For one square 3 months \$5—do for six months, \$8—do for 12 months, \$12 00. An additional number of squares in the same proportion.

Advertisements not marked with the number of insertions required, will be continued until ordered out, and charged accordingly. No deviation from this rule.

A liberal deduction will be made to those who advertise by the year. Advertisers by the year will be confined strictly to their business.

Candidates announced for \$3 00.

Correspondence.

INDEPENDENCE, Mo.,
January 1st, 1849.

DEAR SIR:—Within the last few months many letters have been received by our Post master, and other citizens of our town, from various parts of the United States, making enquiry relative to the best route from Missouri to Oregon and California, and the facilities here for furnishing outfits to persons going to either place.

The individuals to whom those letters have been addressed, not considering themselves capable of rendering the necessary information, are desirous that some person here should make a reply; and as we anticipate a large emigration from our State to the Pacific the approaching Spring, we have taken the liberty of calling upon you, Sir, being the person of all amongst us, best qualified to give satisfactory information. You have explored these distant regions, and must be well acquainted with everything connected with the journey.

Will you, Sir, at some leisure hour, be kind enough to prepare a Circular for publication under your own signature, which may serve as a reply to the numerous enquiries above alluded to. With sentiments of respect and esteem,

We are, Sir, truly yours
SAMUEL RALSTON,
SAMUEL D. LUCAS,
SMALLWOOD NOLAND.
Col. WILLIAM GILPIN.

JACKSON COUNTY, Mo.,
January 8th, 1849.

GENTLEMEN:—You are correct, gentlemen, in anticipating an immense influx of emigration from our own country, and from Europe, to the delicious new territories of our western seaboard, which peace and legislation have, for the first time, now opened to the enterprising citizens of all countries.

Independence, now, for twenty years, the emporium of the commerce of the Prairies, possesses indisputable and peculiar advantages over all other places, as the point of rendezvous and final embarkation for emigrants and travellers going to the Pacific. It is upon the bank of the Missouri river, but beyond that river—just where the Indian line divides the populous and timbered country from the expansive, open prairies that extend to the Rocky Mountains—the great river here deflecting to the North, makes it the extreme available landing for steamers towards the west, and hence depart the great land routes—passing by the Upper Arkansas into western Texas, Mexico and Southern California, and by the Platte to Upper California, Oregon, and the sources of the Missouri.

Apart from the decided excellence of Independence as a geographical point, it recommends itself from the unlimited abundance of supplies to be had at all times; their excellent quality and adaptation to the journey of the Plains and mountains. The habitual annual departure and arrival of emigrants and travellers, has created a body of skillful mechanics, and all kinds of complete manufacturing establishments in every department of the trades, combined with stores, filled with supplies for all wants and tastes. Here are manufactured (of all sizes) the peculiar wagons, strongly ironed—adapted to resist the dry climate of the high altitudes; harness, saddles, and pack-saddles, for mountain use, in every variety, to resist fire and accidents—in short, flour mills, rope mills, wagon manufactory, tanners, leather manufactory, saddle and harness makers, hatters, farriers, clothing establishments, as well as every other trade, (such as vermilion, red cloth, Mackinaw blankets,) gunsmiths, are all here established on a permanent and ample scale, and furnish articles of a substantial and durable character—calculated to carry the traveller safely beyond the wilderness, without the necessity of repair or renewal. We have, perhaps, no good stock market as in the world. Here may be had the small, tough horses and mules, bred from Cali-

fornia, Mexico, and the Indian tribes of the mountains and prairies, as well as the horses, cattle and mules, of larger size and good blood—raised upon the prairie grass of the settlements. Let me here state, that every article of equipment, not destroyed or consumed, is of greatly enhanced value at the end of the journey, and indispensable to the agriculturist. Experienced hunters, guides and teamsters abound in the neighborhood, and many of our citizens, are veterans of the mountain life.

By the recent census, the population of Independence is 1,046; and of Jackson county, 12,609. Provisions, forage and pastures are infinite in quantity, and of the best quality. Only twelve miles to the west also, is the beautiful country of the Shawnee Indians—abounding in delightful camps and after the 1st of May, covered with nutritious grasses.

The only road practicable for wagons, at present known from the States to the Pacific, is the one through the South Pass, beyond which it branches near the Salt Lake; the right-hand fork descends by Snake River to the Columbia—the left-hand traversing directly west, through the Great Basin of High California, crosses the Sierra Nevada by the sources of Salmon Trout river, and the Rio de los Americanos—descending the latter to the Sacramento, and down it to San Francisco Bay. These roads, which four years ago were uncertain, difficult and dangerous, are now become permanently established, easy and safe. The large and prosperous settlement of the Mormons at Salt Lake, affords a central point to rest and recruit. Families, travelling with horned cattle, accomplish the trip in 120 days, and if judicious in the management of their animals, at no expense but the small cost of provisions and groceries—so excellent are the roads, the climate and the pastures!

The following table of latitudes and longitudes, shows the directness of the routes and the distances.

	Latitude	Longitude
Independence,	39 07	94
South Pass,	42 29	109
Mormon City,	40 26	112
N. Helvetia (California)	39 40	120 34
Astoria (Oregon)	46 19	124 30

There roads are, therefore, direct and straight, only excepting the deflection in to the South Pass. The distances roughly estimated, being 1,850 miles to San Francisco, and 1,950 to Astoria.

The outfit for travellers, may be classified under two heads:

1st. That necessary for emigrants with families, and for merchants with goods.
2d. That for light and expeditions travelling either with packs or wagons.
Carriages of all kinds, wagons and carts have successfully performed the trip.—Teams of horses, mules and oxen, are promiscuously used, and often teams of bulls and cows. Stock of all kinds, driven loose, and especially cows and sheep, furnish a reliable supply of food, and bring very high prices.

The expense of an outfit under the first head, will fall within the following estimate:

TRANSPORTATION.
Large wagon, \$100.
Oxen \$45 per yoke, 180.
Or Mules at \$60, 480.
Harness, 60.
Extra rope, leather, tools, axes, spades, tar, &c., 25.

PROVISIONS.
Flour at \$2 per cwt., 150 lbs each.
Bacon at 25¢ per cwt, 75 lbs each.
Coffee at 8¢ per lb 20 lbs each.
Sugar at 8¢ per lb 50 lbs each.
Salt, pepper, vinegar, &c.

MESS.
Skillets, oven and frying pans of iron.
Kettles, cups &c. of tin.

BEDS.
Mackinaw blankets at \$10 to 16 per pr.
A small assortment of Indian goods.

The expense for a single traveller, under the second head, may be thus averaged:

Riding horse \$60.
Two mules at \$60 120.
Saddle, bridle and spurs 12.
Two pack saddles \$4 8.

Provisions, and other supplies, the same as above.
Should parties of six or ten unite their means and substitute a four horse or six mule wagon, this would be equivalent to ten pack mules, in so long a journey.—These wagons cost \$75—the harness \$6 a set.

I have staid 120 days as the length of the journey; but parties of young men, having packs and good animals and guides, may easily reach the Sacramento 45 or 50 days; nor need such confine themselves to the wagon road, but may take the route of the Arkansas, or by Santa Fe.

INDEPENDENCE has been the point

selected by the State and National Governments, for the departure of the Military and Exploring expeditions to Oregon, Mexico and California, both before and during the war, and of their return and discharge. Other points higher up the Missouri, as Weston, St. Joseph and the Mormon settlement near Council Bluffs, have occasionally been selected by emigrating parties. These places have all the disadvantage of being on the eastern bank of the Missouri, and as yet, far behind Independence in the abundance, adaptation and cheapness of supplies.

Allow me to repeat some facts stated by me on my return from the Pacific, in 1844:

The maritime country, on the Pacific extends along the ocean from San Diego to Vancouver's Island, and is confined between the snowy ridge of the Sierra Nevada and the beach. Its average width exceeds 150 miles—its length 1200. This Sierra Nevada is the prolongation of the Andes of Chili, Peru, Columbia, Central America and Mexico—preserving all its characteristics unaltered, of great height, volcanoes—volcanic rock and lava. It is grander here than in South America, because receding from the coast, it is accompanied by this maritime region, which gives room for a series of fine rivers.—The Bonaventura, San Joachin, Sacramento, Shasta river, the Flamingo, Umpqua, Wallamette, Columbia, Puget's Sound.

This whole region therefore abounds with the same mineral productions as Spanish America; whilst it has its own grand excellencies for commerce, agriculture both arable and pastoral, infinite fisheries, forests, internal navigation and position between the valley of the Mississippi and China—a delicious and tranquil climate, and sublime scenery make this incontestably the finest new country of which the human race has yet anywhere possessed itself.

Yours Respectfully,
W. GILPIN.
To Messrs. Samuel Ralston, Samuel D. Lucas, Smallwood Noland.

Missouri Legislature.

IN SENATE.

SATURDAY MORNING, Jan. 20.

After the introduction of a number of petitions, bills, &c., the remainder of the day was spent in discussing the contested election case.

In the House, nothing was done that was of any special interest.

IN SENATE.

MONDAY, Jan. 22.

The forenoon of this day was spent in discussing the contested election case. In the afternoon session, Mr. Wyatt introduced a resolution, giving the Senate Chamber to the Ladies of Jefferson, on Tuesday evening, for benevolent purposes—adopted.

Mr. Jackson from the committee to whom was referred the petition of Julia M. Reynolds, praying the passage of a law to divorce her from her husband, L. H. Reynolds, reported a bill to that effect, and recommended its passage; read first time.

Mr. Rollins presented a petition from merchants, praying the privilege to sell clocks without license—read and referred to the Committee of Ways and Means.

Mr. Williams introduced an act to further prevent Sabbath breaking.

Mr. Norris introduced a resolution instructing the Committee of Ways and Means, to inquire into the expediency of amending the law in relation to the collection of the revenue.

Several motions were made to adjourn, but failed. One or two Senators then asked leave of absence until 10 o'clock to-morrow morning, when

On motion, the Senate adjourned till to-morrow.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

MONDAY, Jan. 22.

The Speaker laid before the House the report of the Commissioner of the Permanent Seat of Government, stating the number of lots sold, 325, amount of notes on hand, \$3 369, amount collected, \$1360, balance due \$2000—report agreed to.

The following bills passed:
An act to levy a tax to pay grand and petit jurors of Nowaday county.

An act for the relief of the late collector of Pettis county.

An act to authorize St. Charles county to borrow a sum of money not exceeding \$10,000.

An act to establish four Judicial Districts of the Supreme Court. The first Judicial District at Warsaw, the second at Independence, the third at Paris, and the fourth at St. Louis.

Mr. Gwinn moved to lay the bill on the table—failed.
Mr. Ewing moved to refer the bill to the committee of the Whole. Messrs. Ballou, Jones, Campbell and Ewing participated in the discussion.

justness of the Mexican war, and the imputation cast upon the volunteers by the report of the Inspectors of the Penitentiary.

An act to divorce Benj. Wilson and wife, was read three times and laid on the table, on motion of Mr. Clardy.

The constitutional amendment authorizing Judges of the Circuit Court, in certain cases to hold Courts in the Circuits of other Judges, was read third time.

Mr. Simms opposed the amendment because it gives a Judge at his own will and pleasure, the right to request any Judge of any Circuit, without giving any reason for the request, to hold his Courts for him.

Mr. Ballou advocated the amendment, and Mr. Jones opposed it, both assigning briefly their reasons.

Mr. Ballou replied to Mr. Jones, and was himself replied to by Mr. Simms.

Mr. Campbell was in favor of the amendment, and thought the construction put upon it by Mr. Simms, forced and strained. He concurred with Ballou, and enumerated many reasons why the amendments should be passed.

A number of other short speeches were made for and against the amendment, when it was passed.

IN SENATE.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 24.

Mr. Jackson moved to pass over the regular order of business, which was agreed to.

Mr. President laid before the Senate a communication from the Governor, asking permission to withdraw the nomination of Wm. A. Robards, as Attorney General.

On motion of Mr. Bean, the Secretary of State was permitted to withdraw the nomination of Mr. Robards.

Mr. Gatewood introduced a resolution so amending the present Constitution of this State as to make the Secretary of State, Auditor of Public Accounts, State Treasurer and Register of Lands, elective by the people—read first time.

[At this point the Senate took another 'awent' at the contested election question, which consumed nearly the balance of the forenoon.]

Mr. Priest moved to pass over the regular order of business, and that the Senate now go into Executive session.

R communication from the Governor was then read, nominating Wm. A. Robards, Esq., as Attorney General of this State, for four years, from and after the expiration of the time of the present incumbent.

The Senate then unanimously confirmed the nomination.

The following nominations for Judges of the Circuit Courts were then read and confirmed:

Foster P. Wright, Judge of the 7th Judicial Circuit; Chas. S. Yancey, of the 13th; Jno. H. Stone, of the 9th; Alexander Hamilton, of the 8th, and Cary Wells, of the 3d.

On motion, the Senate adjourned till 2 o'clock.

Afternoon Session.—Senate met, and after the introduction of one or two unimportant bills, took up the question of the contested seat of Mr. W. C. Jones—occupying the remainder of the evening.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 24.

House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Saunders made a report of sundry enrolled bills, when the passed over the regular order of business and proceeded to the 3d reading of bills.

An act to amend the Constitution so as to make the office of Attorney General and Circuit Attorney elective by the people, from the year 1852, and every four years after—laid on the table.

An act to change the time of holding court in the 6th Judicial district—passed.

An act to authorize pre-emptors to enter quarter sections of land—passed.

An act to authorize W. Hart to keep a dram shop without license—indefinitely postponed.

A bill in regard to juries in cases of breach of the peace, reducing the number to compose a jury to six—passed.

Mr. Woodard offered to amend, allowing in cases of conviction, 50 cents to each juror, which was on motion of Mr. Perryman, rejected.

An act divorcing Jane Logan from her husband.

Mr. Edmonson stated the facts concerning the petition, which was amply satisfactory to his mind for a divorce, and he hoped this case would enlist the feelings of the House, for an injured woman.

Mr. Jones was opposed to this species of legislation, unless there was a general law upon the subject. He was opposed to partial legislation, and of making distinctions. An extraordinary case might justify a divorce by the legislature.

Mr. Foster said it had been the custom of the Legislature to grant divorces, and he thought this was a case to justify the

Legislature in granting the petition.

Mr. Clardy thought the gentleman from Andrew should certainly support this bill as he had been the peculiar advocate of the females a few days since, in trying to get some of them out of the penitentiary.

Mr. Ballou argued the constitutional right of the Legislature in granting divorces, and was satisfied of the power. He had no constitutional scruples on the subject.

Mr. Caruthers from the representations of the gentleman from Reynolds, he was almost disposed to go for this bill, being as he was a young man. But he was opposed to partial legislation—a law had been passed a few days since, lessening the time by which divorces might be granted. This is not the place for such matters. The courts of the country are the legitimate tribunals where all the facts and circumstances can be known.

The bill passed—ayes 58, noes 22.
House adjourned till to-morrow.

IN SENATE.

THURSDAY, Jan. 25.

Mr. Polk introduced a resolution to amend the Constitution, so as to make the Judges of the Supreme & Circuit Courts elective by the people; read and ordered to a second reading.

Contested seat of Mr. Jones.

Mr. Jones, of Newton, moved a call of the Senate, which was ordered.

Mr. Jones, of Newton, said that he and Mr. Landers, who was contesting his seat, had agreed to let the matter now go to the Senate without any further argument.

Mr. Gatewood, after a few explanatory remarks, withdrew his motion to have certain documents, in possession of the clerk, read.

Mr. Jones, of Newton, said he would say one word. He hoped no Senator would be prejudiced against him, but set openly and from an honest conviction of right and wrong. He would now leave the question entirely with the Senate.

Mr. Landers rose and said, that he would beg the indulgence of the Senate one moment. He had become tired and weary with this question, and he had no doubt but the Senate had also. He was well assured the decision of the Senate would be right and proper in this case, and if against him, he should not complain. He did think, however, that it would have been but justice to him that the documents he alluded to should have been read before the Senate, and he had no doubt it would have been to his advantage, but if Senators thought differently, he would acquiesce in the decision.

The question then being on agreeing to the report of the Committee on Elections, which gave the seat to Mr. Landers, it was decided in the negative by the following vote—noes 15, ayes 14.

Ayes—Messrs. Abernathy, Childs, Edwards, Ellison, Flournoy, Gatewood, Hudepeth, Jackson, Leslie, Nickel, Norris, Polk, Priest and Reed—14.

Nays—Messrs. Bean, Burnes, Campbell, Hancock, Jones, of Cooper, Jones, of Franklin, Long, Owens, Price, Rollins, Stewart, Wells, Williams, Woolfolk and Wyatt—15.

Absent—Messrs. Burtis, Lowe and White.

The report of the committee not being agreed to, Mr. Wm. C. Jones remains as Senator from the 22d Senatorial district, for the present session, after which his term of service expires.

Mr. Priest offered a resolution giving to A. Landers mileage and per diem pay up to the present day—adopted.

After the transaction of some items of unimportant business, the Senate adjourned till 10 o'clock to-morrow.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THURSDAY, Jan. 25.

The bill dividing the Supreme Court was laid on the table till Monday next.

Mr. Roberts introduced a joint resolution to make the Judges of the Circuit Court elective, for the term of six years, and vacating the offices of said Judges in September, 1851, as also the offices of the clerks of the several courts—read once.

Mr. Ballou introduced a bill for a Geological survey of the State, authorizing the Governor to appoint a State Geologist, and appropriate \$5,000 to carry into effect and accomplish the design of the act—read twice.

Mr. Perryman introduced a resolution instructing the committee of Ways and Means to report a bill to repeal the act entitled an act to sustain the credit of the State—adopted.

The House adjourned till to-morrow morning.

It is vain to trust in the Lord, unless we ourselves are ready to plow and reap in due season.

In vain do we pray for wisdom, while neglecting the necessary means to obtain it.